



## Garden Celebration Honoring Meals on Wheels Volunteers



Our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration held in our NSS Grow to Share Garden was a grand event. The perfect spring weather coupled with our beautiful volunteers created an exquisite evening. The evening began with appetizers and punch provided by Rose Payton, our Director of Food Services, and her staff followed by a Mexican food dinner buffet. **Ward, Bowen & Steinman** provided musical entertainment enjoyed by everyone. **Clara Velasco, Beth Kirk, Kaye Neild, Al Prosser, Delbert Self and Rhonda Bell** were recognized for having delivered meals for 20 or more years.

## MORE THAN A MEAL

**Jennifer Cardinelli** would not walk away from an unanswered door because that client was **always** waiting for her. Convincing the manager to unlock the door she found the client on the floor unconscious. **Virginia Hurley** returned to her client's door with a dog leash to replace the broken one because taking that little companion for a walk was very important to her client. Virginia also baked and shared a batch of delicious Tea Cakes with her clients and basked in the joy of hearing their memories of "grandmas and moms" who baked them. These are but two examples of the extraordinary acts of kindness by all our volunteers who are **making a difference one life at a time.**



Clara Velasco  
25 years



Delbert Self  
20 years

## Thank You, Loving Volunteers - You Make it Happen!



Suzanne Crawford  
18 years



Rhonda  
Bell  
1991

Rhonda Bell  
25 years



Howard Olivier  
18 years



Kay Neild  
24 years



Beth Kirk  
24 years



## Volunteers Keep the Wheels Turning YEAR after YEAR after YEAR

### We Welcome Renée Smith to our NSS Staff



We are thrilled to welcome **Renee Smith** as our new **Community Outreach Coordinator**. Renee will focus on continuing to increase our visibility in Southeast Texas and to enlist volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels and help with in-house projects. She surely has the heart and energy for the job and is experienced in developing programs for older adults. Renee replaces **Barbara Warren** who has held the position for the last two and a half years.

After Renee enlists new volunteers and takes them through the orientation process **Lottie Arline, Volunteer Coordinator**, works with the Meals on Wheels team members to cover the 45 volunteer routes. Lottie, in her 14th year with NSS has the tremendous responsibility of making sure all the routes are covered every day. Her ability to find substitutes when volunteers are out and keep the wheels turning is like magic.



When MOW clients do not answer the door the volunteer making the delivery calls **Donnetta Danrich, Meals on Wheels Supervisor**, who follows up to determine if the client is OK and to get help in cases of distress.



Those calling into the agency on the 409-892-4455 number are warmly greeted by our **Receptionist, Janice Sellers** or our **Administrative Assistant, Bonnie Matte** who will direct you to the right person to help you.



**Eighteen of our volunteers have delivered for 10-18 years.**

- 18 yrs: Suzanne and John Crawford, Roland Lewis, Howard Olivier
- 17 yrs: Jordan Burton, Virginia & Jay Hurley, Sue and Roy Philp, Paula Garcia
- 15 yrs: Larry Bassett, Lelia Guillory
- 14 yrs: Leonard Joubert
- 13 yrs: Glen Mikko, Penny Pearson
- 12 yrs: Terri Lamance
- 11 yrs: Angelique Comeaux, Marilyn Tuason
- 10 yrs: Sheree Pierce, Richard Tamayo



Jordan Burton  
17 years



Marilyn Tuason  
11 years

### Welcome New Team Members 2018

- |                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Rachel Boudreaux    | Kasey Martinez    |
| Jennifer Cardinelli | Wilbert McKenzie  |
| Renee Cole          | Jordan Propps     |
| Andy Dang           | Terrell Roane     |
| Viola Derbonne      | Carolyn Roberts   |
| Charles Elliott     | Tammy Robertson   |
| Lula Fontenote      | Cindy Shaw        |
| Wanda Frank         | Sara Stricklan    |
| Denise Freelong     | Donna Turner      |
| Robert Hansen       | Terri Verde       |
| Alexis Johnson      | Demetre Wallace   |
| Cassie Jones        | Jim Wooding       |
| Arthur Klauss       | Brenda Pressley   |
| Kimberly Langley    | Sharlene Sheppard |
| Raymond Olivier     | Angie Vaughn      |

### WHEELS TURNING CORNERS

After 18 years delivering MOW in Beaumont **Howard Olivier** (age 93) has moved to Village Mills to be near his son. He continues to deliver every Monday in his new town. After delivering 22 years **Al Prosser** (age 93) has retired. **Paul Kramlick** has retired after delivering 19 years. **Art and Ledia Miller** have moved to Montgomery, Texas. Tammi Williams with JVIC Construction has moved but **Patty LeBlanc** and the JVIC team continue to deliver. These devoted friends have made a tremendous contribution to our success.



Larry Bassett - 15 years



Penny Pearson - 13 years



Members of Temple Emanuel and the Deliver the Difference Luncheon Committee led by Cynthia Wolf assembled Shelf Stable Meals for delivery to MOW clients for the July 4th Holiday.



We were thrilled to have Lindy Denis and his wife, June, join us for our garden party. Lindy was a key contributor to the creation of the garden and building of the pavilion.



### ExxonMobil Summer Interns

From all areas of the USA these beautiful young people participating in ExxonMobil's summer intern program gave us an exciting, energetic morning as they assembled 2,000 Shelf Stable Meals in 2 hours. Primarily engineering students from a large collection of universities they will return to their home turfs as our new ambassadors spreading the news about the contributions of Meals on Wheels.

**Thank You ExxonMobil!**

## Help Needed!

Meals on Wheels Team Needs More People to Deliver

Rt #	Pick Up Beaumont	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri
1A	Best Yrs Ctr		X	X	X	
1C	Best Yrs Ctr					X
2A	NSS	X				
2C	NSS	X				
2E	Wesley UMC			X		
4A	Centerpoint			X	X	
4B	Centerpoint			X		
5C	Centerpoint	X				
5D	Centerpoint					X
5F	NSS				X	X
7B	Rec Ctr PA	X		X	X	
10B	Heathrbk PA	X	X	X	X	X
	CrystalCrk PA	X	X		X	X
9F	Nederland		X	X		X
10F	Nederland			X		
11B	Kountze		X		X	
12B	Lumberton		X			
12C	Lumberton	X			X	
49D	Silsbee					X
	Village Mills		X	X	X	X

**X indicates route needs to be covered**

Many volunteers need time off for vacation, illnesses or storm repairs. Please share our needs with your friends. This is a job that takes little time and has great rewards.

## Lottie's Corner

A little check-up on Meals on Wheels procedures:

- 1. Please no deliveries before 10:30.** During Inspections route sheets are carefully reviewed for the times of delivery. We are held to the 10:30-1:30 time frame to ensure food stays at proper temperature.
- 2. Write on Route Sheets with ball point pens,** no markers, please. Markers bleed through the paper which may obscure important information.
- 3. If note paper and gold door tags missing** from the route folder please let Lottie know.
- 4. Always leave route folders in the locked box** at Centerpoint when route is completed. Code to open is 4590.

**THANK YOU!**



## Phenomenal Support from our Local Business Community



Finishing their work week at noon on Saturday these extraordinary **Chase Bank Port Arthur** employees came to NSS to assemble 2000 shelf stable Meals. We totally depend on volunteers to assemble these meals which are delivered to our Meals on Wheels clients the day before a holiday so they have lunch when we take the day off. **THANK YOU, CHASE BANK PORT ARTHUR!**

## Our Youth Care for Our Seniors



Every year **Nederland Central Middle School Canine Christians** do a fundraiser for our Meals on Wheels program. Led by their sponsors Ms. Carolyn Hunter and Ms. Kim Anderson, these adorable students raised \$1,200 in cash and collected four big boxes of canned food for our Pantry. Every month some of our Seniors are also given a bag of groceries. It is the dedication of groups like this that make that happen.

## Record Breaking Harvest NSS Grow to Share Garden



**Toni Clark** (in blue), **Lea Ramsour**, **Mary Nixon**

and many other volunteers have had a busy season harvesting and packaging fresh produce from our **Grow to Share Garden** and the **Wesley United Methodist Garden** for our MOW clients. With an unprecedented tomato crop every client who wanted fresh tomatoes received them. Delicious fresh strawberries, carrots, cucumbers, cantaloupes, green beans, green onions and turnips were in abundance. Thanks to the **Griffin and Evans Blueberry Farms**, which allowed us to come to the farm and pick blueberries, we also made a big delivery of delicious fresh blueberries. To date, we have delivered **11,000** packages of fresh produce to our MOW clients.

## Gluten Free Real Food Feast Lamar University Culinary Department



Annually, Chef Charles Duit and his Lamar University Culinary Students provide a delicious gluten-free meal. This is a delightful casual evening held in our NSS Dining Center at 4520 Concord Road. **Stay tuned for our next Real Food Feast, coming this Fall. Make your reservations early.**